

Age Friendly Island Steering Group

Terms of Reference

1. Background and context

There are 140,000 people (in 2010) living on the Isle of Wight. Of this figure approximately 34,000 people are over the age of 65 and this figure is expected to rise to 56,000 by 2033.

National research shows that 10% of people over the age of 65 are chronically lonely, which means as figures stand on the Isle of Wight now 34,000 people are lonely and isolated.

Age UK IW is striving to create an Age Friendly Island accredited by the World Health Organisation (WHO). This is a five year project that sits at the heart of a broad Big Lottery funded initiative: Fulfilling Lives, Ageing Better, being delivered by a consortium of organisations across the Island. Age Friendly Island is one in a series of 11 projects, with this particular project overarching the delivery projects.

An Age Friendly Island

An Age Friendly Island is one where policies, services and structures related to the physical and social environment are designed to help and support older people to continue living the lives they wish. Enabling older people to live safely, enjoy good health and stay locally involved.

This project is based on the World Health Organisation's (WHO), 'Guide to Age Friendly Cities' as a blueprint this project will work toward the objectives of attaining WHO accreditation for the Isle of Wight as an 'Age Friendly Island'. We are one of 14 areas represented on the National WHO UK Network steering group, and also part of the global network of which there are xxx members.

WHO have developed distinct work areas for creating Age Friendly Communities, these are as follows: Outdoor spaces and buildings, transportation, housing, social participation, age friendly respect and social inclusion, civic participation and employment, communication and information and community support and health services.

2. Purpose of the 'Age Friendly Island (AFI) Steering Group'.

The AFI Steering group is a strategic partnership for the Island that brings together the statutory, private, voluntary and community sectors. It will develop new policies, contribute to new strategies, create initiatives and services and enhance those that already exist for older people in the community. The key of the steering group is the cross sector co-operation to find ways to improve the lives of older people in terms of their, health, their housing their social and personal wellbeing in their communities. When different sectors come together, a new synergy can be created so that services support each other rather than compete and new models can be developed that are both cost effective and life enhancing.

The purpose of the AFI Steering Group is to develop and support the 5 year project plan for Age UK IOW's work towards creating an Age Friendly Island.

Members of the group include key people who represent different organisations who share a common commitment to make a great community for all Islanders to grow old on. They have been selected on the basis of having the influence and resources to be able to develop and deliver an Age Friendly Island Strategy.

The lead officer for this steering group will be Age UK IOW Age Friendly Island Development Officer.

3. Membership

The core membership of the group will comprise of key people / businesses and organisations who could play a crucial role in the lives of older people. The following organisations are represented on this group:

Action on Hearing Loss, Age UK IW, Alzheimer's Society, Chair of CCG, CAB, Earle Mountbatten Hospice, Hampshire Police, HMP Isle of Wight, Independent Arts, IOW Council, IOW Fire and Rescue Service, IOW Library Service, Learning Links, Nettlestone and Seaview Community Partnership, Southern Housing Group, Southern Vectis, St John the Baptist Church and Trading Standards.

The group will be involved in strategic planning and development work. Members will be invited to attend as many meetings as possible and where this is not possible send a deputy or written update to inform the meetings.

In between the quarterly steering group meetings, 'Task and Review' groups will focus on a specific pieces of work based around the 8 WHO domains. For the 'Task and Review' groups we will invite other relevant organisations to be involved. One person from the group will be nominated to attend a quarterly AFI steering group meeting to give a project progress report.

4. Direction and planning

The AFI Steering Group will:

- Ensure that the services and activities within the project support the aims and objectives set out by the WHO.
- Recommend key strategies and plans to the AFI Steering Group with regard to the implementation and development of the project.
- Monitor the performance of the project against the set targets.
- Support key decisions that are agreed by the group at the meetings.
- Ensure that the work of the AFI Steering Group is communicated across Age UK IOW.
- Ensure that the work of the project aims to make the Isle of Wight an Age Friendly Community', leading to WHO accreditation.

5. Meetings

The group will aim to meet quarterly. In order for meetings to take place there must be a minimum of 4 people attending each meeting. An email group will be set up for correspondence in between meetings. The venue for the meeting will be hosted by organisations represented on the group.

6. Reporting

The Age Friendly Island Development Officer will ensure that regular reports from the AFI Steering group are submitted to the Ageing Better Management Group (ABMG)

6. Funding

This project is fully funded for five years by Big Lottery. And a further grant of £1,000 has been given to support an Age Friendly Surgeries Project, which will be overseen by a Task and Finish Group.

The terms of reference for this group will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Emma Lincoln

Revised Terms of Reference – First Draft – 20th October 2016